

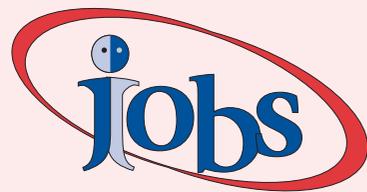


Hot Jobs in Alaska

www.jobs.state.ak.us

Have you figured out your future?

Jobs in the Oil, Gas, Mineral, Construction and Transportation Industries



**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
& WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

This project was funded in part by a grant awarded under the President's High Growth Job Training Initiative, as implemented by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration and the State of Alaska, Department of Labor & Workforce Development.

A Message from the Commissioner



Many high paying jobs in Alaska don't require a four-year degree, but do require training after high school. The training can range from several weeks to a couple of years depending on your interests. The jobs in this booklet are the jobs Alaska employers will be looking to fill in high demand industries.

I've been a heavy equipment operator for the past 32 years and made an excellent life for my family in Fairbanks. I became an operator because that's what my father did and Alaska is a great place to do this kind of work. I got to enjoy the outdoors, meet lots of interesting people throughout the state, and make a great living. I had to work hard to train for this job by learning how to weld and doing well in math and science classes. As an operator, I helped build roads, pipelines and commercial buildings. Now, as the Commissioner for the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, it is my job to help get you prepared for the careers waiting for you.

There are jobs in the oil, gas, mining, construction and transportation industries to research in this booklet. Imagine future jobs on the gas line and how many trained workers will be needed. Imagine the team-work needed to accomplish projects like building an 800 mile long gas line. Imagine the relationships with your co-workers, the mutual respect for their skills and knowledge to pull the big projects together. Imagine the support jobs also available in these industries.

There is something for everyone inside this booklet. Remember, you can accomplish what you set your mind to. So, dream big and think about what you would like to do.

We want to help you find out what you can do now that will help you get a great paying job later. This booklet will help you get there. It is also available on line at <http://www.jobs.state.ak.us/hotjobs/>

I wish you the best of luck and invite you to talk to your teachers, parents, guardians, community leaders, business people and your local Job Centers for assistance.

Sincerely,

Click Bishop, Commissioner
Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development

How to Find Out More Information about Hot Jobs in Alaska

Alaska Department of Labor

www.jobs.state.ak.us

The Department of Labor's web site holds a wealth of information about jobs – from learning about what jobs are available to finding a job in a field that interests you. Please check out the following web sites for more information on Hot Jobs!

Alaska's Labor Exchange System - ALEXsys

<http://alexsys.labor.state.ak.us/>

The Alaska Labor Exchange System (ALEXsys) is a new tool that helps you find out about jobs and helps match job seekers with employers. ALEXsys can also link you to information about what jobs are hot in Alaska, helps you build a resume, and it even has a "personal recruiter" that contacts you via email when a new job comes online that you qualify for. It's a fast and easy way to learn more about jobs in Alaska.

Labor Market Information

In the Alaska Department of Labor's world, information on our web site about jobs is under the topic Labor Market Information. Go to www.jobs.state.ak.us and click on Labor Market Information on the left hand side of the page. From there you will see the following links:

Alaska Career Information System

www.akcis.org

To receive a password to log on to the AKCIS website, please email hotjobs@labor.state.ak.us.

The Alaska Career Information System (AKCIS) has been a great help in preparing information for this report. AKCIS is an annually updated online program that provides comprehensive, user-friendly career information. It is designed to help young people through adults explore career and educational opportunities in Alaska and throughout the U.S., including detailed descriptions of more than 500 jobs, information about colleges, universities and technical schools and more.

America's Career InfoNet

www.acinet.org/acinet

Career Voyages

www.careervoyages.gov/

Career Voyages is another great site you can access on the Department's Labor Market Information site. Career Voyages lets you explore careers through videos, so you can see real people talking about their jobs and what they do.

Occupational Information Network – O*net OnLine

<http://online.onetcenter.org/>

America's Career InfoNet and O*net OnLine are U.S. Department of Labor sites that also provide helpful and important information about jobs throughout the country. You can use these sites to find out even more information about jobs you may be interested in.

Hot Jobs in Alaska

In the Oil & Gas, Mining, Construction and Transportation Industries

TABLE OF CONTENTS

How to Use This Publication	1	Operating Engineers	31
If You're A Girl, Read this Page	2	Plumbers and Pipefitters	35
		Process Operators	39
20 Hot Jobs		Ship Captains and Mates.....	41
Accounting Clerks, Bookkeeping Clerks	3	Surveying and Mapping Technicians	43
Building Maintenance Workers	5	Transportation Storage and Distribution Managers ...	45
Bus and Truck Mechanics, Diesel Engine Specialists	7	Welders	47
Carpenters	9		
Construction Foremen	11	Where Can I Get Training?	
Drafters	13	Apprenticeships	50
Drillers	15	Business and Secretarial Schools	53
Electricians	17	Colleges, Universities and Religious Schools	54
Freight Handlers	21	Technical and Vocational Institutes.....	55
Hazardous Waste Removal Workers	23	Trade and Commercial Schools	56
Heavy Truck Drivers, Tractor-Trailer Drivers	25	Two-Year Colleges and	
Miners, Mining Machine Operators	27	University of Alaska Off-Campus Programs.....	56
Mobile Heavy Equipment Mechanics	29		



How to Use this Publication

As a high school student, you're probably pretty busy. There are sports and dances and activities, not to mention homework! So sitting down and really thinking about what you want to do with your life after high school probably isn't at the top of your priority list.

Hard as it is to imagine, your time in high school will fly by before you know it. That's why the folks at the Alaska Department of Labor & Workforce Development and the U.S. Department of Labor want you to know about some jobs that will be in demand in Alaska when you get out of high school.

This publication focuses on "Hot Jobs in Alaska" that don't require a four-year degree. The jobs are ones that are in demand, provide good pay and the opportunity for a great lifestyle.

Please take the time to go through this booklet and read about 20 jobs in the oil and gas, mining, construction and transportation industries in Alaska. You'll learn what each job involves, how much money you can make, what skills are required and what classes you can take right now to prepare for these jobs. You'll also learn where you can go to get training that will qualify you for these jobs.

Take the time to ask questions, talk with your parents, teachers, guidance counselors and the professionals from the Alaska Department of Labor's Job Centers. Look online at www.jobs.state.ak.us. Most of all, take the time out of your busy days to think about what you want your future to look like. There's a whole world of possibilities out there for you!



If you're a girl, read this page!

Many of the "hot jobs" profiled in this booklet are considered "non-traditional" jobs. They are jobs that girls don't often think about.

But maybe it's time you should.

The U.S. Department of Labor defines a non-traditional career field as one that has 25 percent or less women working in it. They want to encourage women to become involved in these jobs and have programs to prepare you for these fields and to help you become successful in them. This includes many broad categories, such as math, science, and engineering, as well as occupations in construction trades, law enforcement, auto repair, printing, computer maintenance and repair, and many other fields.

Right now, less than 15 percent of all working women have jobs in these non-traditional fields. Most of these jobs are in technical fields that don't require a four-year college degree.

Why should you consider a non-traditional career?

The answer is simple. These jobs provide higher pay and better benefits than many of the jobs women traditionally take. For example, more than half of all working women are employed in low paying support jobs such as retail salespeople, waitresses and hairdressers. Women traditionally dominate these fields, but those women who work in non-traditional fields make 20-30 percent more than those who work in traditional fields. And besides better pay, there are more opportunities for advancement and better benefits (like healthcare insurance and more vacation time) in many of the jobs listed in this publication. And studies show that women who choose a job in a non-traditional career like their jobs and are better able to support themselves and their families.

Although you may not think so at first, finding out more about non-traditional jobs may help you see that one of these jobs might be right for you. And you don't need Supergirl strength to be successful.

Take a look at the jobs listed in this publication and think seriously about whether or not one of them might be right for you.

